

### REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this patent application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19, 21, and 22 have been cancelled, Claims 23-33 have been inserted, and consequently, Claims 20 and 23-33 are now active in this patent application.

This patent application is a divisional patent application of United States Patent Application Serial Number 10/367,823 which was filed on February 19, 2003. Claims 1-19, 21, and 22 have been cancelled, Claims 23-33 have been inserted, and consequently, Claims 20 and 23-33 are now active in this patent application and are directed toward the hitch mechanism and vehicle combination of the present invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that



this patent application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and therefore, an early and favorable action is now anticipated and awaited.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**SCHWARTZ & WEINRIEB**



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